

FEB 09 2017

Edwards,Michelle

From: Benjamin Kite [benjamin.kite@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 09, 2017 10:26 AM
To: Azar, George; DeBaun,Curtis; Morris,Don; Auler,Amy; Elliott,Earl; Nasser,Karrum;
Nation,Todd; Garrison,Neil; Crossen,Martha
Cc: Edwards,Michelle
Subject: No to Casinos

CITY CLERK

Respected Councilors,

I'm writing again to ask that you vote against supporting a casino in Terre Haute. The reasons are so numerous that it is too unwieldy to make a comprehensive-but-succinct case, but I suspect you have heard many of the salient arguments, so let me add one more:

Casinos create a destination with unfair advantage over other local merchants. I admit, I am no fan of an unfettered market, but free markets have their place. What will local tavern owners say to a casino that gives away alcohol, that allows smoking?

Casinos create a place where laws are waived — laws about what is considered fraud, laws about alcohol and tobacco consumption, even laws about false representations of fact in advertising. There is nothing to suggest that this move will not duplicate the same conditions here. ... and what is the useful and wholesome "product" that casinos produce? On the average, it is disappointment and loss — if it weren't, they wouldn't make any money because everyone would be winners.

What will you do — what will you say — how will you take public responsibility for opening the door to this once the genie is out of the bottle?

Thanks again for your time,
Ben